



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2008

**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS  
PRESS RELEASE**

**Mayor Sanders Appoints Elsa Saxod to the  
San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors**

**SAN DIEGO-** Mayor Sanders has appointed Elsa Saxod to the San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors, subject to City Council confirmation.

Elsa Saxod founded SAXOD Enterprises in 1980, a firm that provides binational consulting services on U.S./Mexico affairs and issues. From 2001 to 2006, Ms. Saxod worked for the City of San Diego as the Director of Binational Affairs and helped strengthen the City's relations with Mexico on environmental, water, and wastewater issues. Prior to Ms. Saxod's employment with the City of San Diego, Ms. Saxod was a Senior Account Executive for Katz & Associates where she was intricately involved with consulting the City's water and wastewater departments on binational water infrastructure matters and U.S./Mexico relations. Ms. Saxod has worked with various governmental agencies on water quality, water supply, and environmental issues at the local, state, national, and international levels. She served as the Co-Chair for the San Diego/Tijuana Binational Watershed Advisory Council where she helped lead the effort to prepare a watershed management plan for the Tijuana River Watershed. In addition, from 1997 to 2001, Ms. Saxod was appointed as the public sector representative on the Good Neighbor Environmental Board, a federal panel that advises the President and Congress on border environmental issues. She also Co-Chaired the Border 2012 Regional Water Working Group, a collaborative partnership led by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and its Mexican counterpart, SEMARNAT, to address air quality, water quality, and environmental issues along the U.S./Mexico border.

Ms. Saxod's commitment to the San Diego region and binational affairs has led her to serve on various business, academic, civic, and public agency boards. For the last two

years, Ms. Saxod has chaired the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's International Committee, and she serves on UCSD's Board of Overseers and the Dean's Advisory Council for the College of Arts and Letters at San Diego State University. She is also the Regional Chamber's representative to the San Diego International Airport Advisory Committee. Her past activities include chairing SANDAG's Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) which focuses on binational infrastructure and environmental projects. She also served on the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors, United Way of San Diego Board of Directors, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Infrastructure Committee and Water Subcommittee, and LEAD San Diego's Advisory Board. In 1986, Ms. Saxod was honored by the United States Small Business Administration as the "Women in Business Advocate of the Year." She has also been honored by the California Women in Government and the California Cable Television Industry.

Ms. Saxod's vast knowledge of regional water issues, passion to improve border relations and border infrastructure, participation with think-tanks and numerous committees to address water quality and border environmental issues, ability to build consensus and forge partnerships amongst the public, private, and governmental sectors, and insightful understanding of binational relations will be a valuable asset to the San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors. Ms. Saxod is a great candidate to serve as a one of the City's 10 representatives to the Board, and she will positively impact continued efforts to advocate for the City of San Diego's water supply interests.

Ms. Saxod holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish from San Diego State University and resides in Mission Hills. She will replace Joseph Craver, who has resigned, for a term expiring February 7, 2010.

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